From: TREAGE1@aol.com@inetgw

To: Microsoft ATR **Date:** 1/2/02 3:44pm **Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I support the settlement reached between the Fed. Government and Microsoft.

We should not be subject to a group of competitors who haven't been able to come up with a better operating system, or we'd be using it. Tearing down the strong for improvement of the weak is not the right direction.

At the same time I support the settlement, I don't want to be denied the use of a superior software product to that of Microsoft. If that means a ruling, or law, requiring openness by Microsoft to their codes, so be it.

If Microsoft, at some future date, has violated this openness, that is the time to put their feet to the fire, by order, after hearings and findings that don't drag out forever. We need to have the greatest flexibility in using our computers to enhance communications and knowledge.

Thomas R. Eggert